

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~striketrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please AMEND claims 1, 3 and 9, and ADD new claims 11-13 in accordance with the following:

1. (currently amended) A multi-layered organic electrophotographic photoconductor comprising:

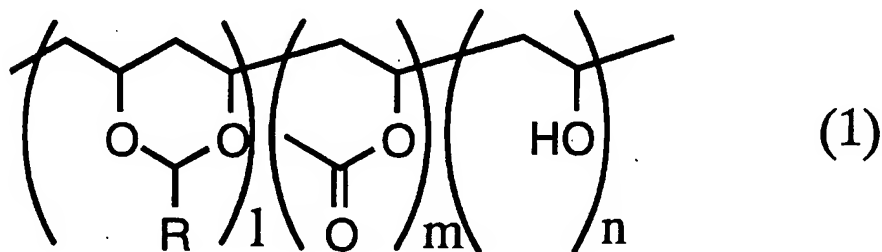
a conductive substrate and layers including an undercoat layer containing a thermosetting resin,

a charge generation layer containing charge generation material and organic binder resin, and

a charge transport layer laminated sequentially on the substrate,

wherein polydispersity defined by a ratio of a weight average molecular weight to a number average molecular weight of the organic binder resin is at least 4.0, and the weight average molecular weight of poly(vinyl acetal) utilized in the organic binder resin is at least  $7.0 \times 10^4$  in a distribution of a polystyrene-converted molecular weight obtained by gel permeation chromatography.

2. (original) An electrophotographic photoconductor according to claim 1, wherein the binder resin of the charge generation layer is substantially composed of poly(vinyl acetal) represented by the following chemical formula (1),



where l, m, and n are integers, and R is an alkyl group of one or more carbons or a hydrogen atom.

3. (currently amended) A multi-layered organic electrophotographic photoconductor

comprising:

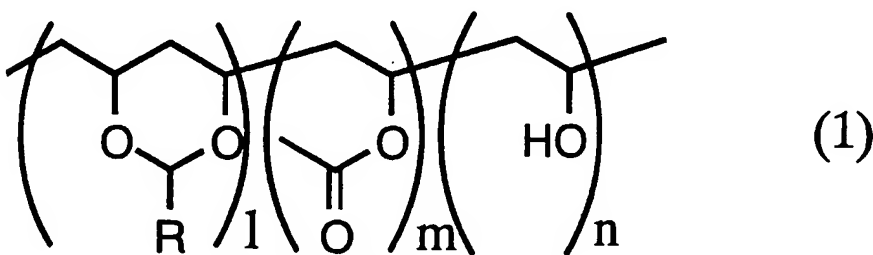
a conductive substrate and layers including an undercoat layer containing a thermosetting resin,

a charge generation layer containing charge generation material and organic binder resin, and

a charge transport layer laminated sequentially on the substrate,

wherein polydispersity defined by a ratio of a weight average molecular weight to a number average molecular weight of the organic binder resin is at least 4.0, and the weight average molecular weight is at least  $7.0 \times 10^4$  in a distribution of a polystyrene-converted molecular weight obtained by gel permeation chromatography,

wherein the binder resin of the charge generation layer is substantially composed of poly(vinyl acetal) represented by the following chemical formula (1),



where l, m, and n are integers, and R is an alkyl group of one or more carbons or a hydrogen atom, and

~~An electrophotographic photoconductor according to claim 2,~~ wherein the binder resin of the charge generation layer is substantially composed of a mixture of two or more ~~types of the~~ poly(vinyl acetal) resins that have different weight average molecular weights and have an overlapping range in molecular weight distributions.

4. (original) An electrophotographic photoconductor according to claim 3, wherein a ratio of a weight of the charge generation material to a weight of the binder resin in the charge generation layer is in a range from 7/3 to 5/5.

5. (original) An electrophotographic photoconductor according to claim 1, wherein the undercoat layer has fine particles that perform functions of scattering exposure light and transporting photo-generated charges to the substrate.

6. (original) An electrophotographic photoconductor according to claim 2, wherein the undercoat layer has fine particles that perform functions of scattering exposure light and transporting photo-generated charges to the substrate.

7. (original) The multi-layered organic electrophotographic photoconductor of claim 1, wherein the charge generation material is selected from the group consisting of phthalocyanine compounds and bisazo compounds.

8. (original) The multi-layered organic electrophotographic photoconductor of claim 7, wherein the phthalocyanine compounds comprise a benzene ring having a substituent that is selected from the group consisting of a halogen and an alkyl group.

9. (currently amended) A multi-layered organic electrophotographic photoconductor comprising:

a conductive substrate and layers including an undercoat layer containing a thermosetting resin,

a charge generation layer containing charge generation material and organic binder resin, and

a charge transport layer laminated sequentially on the substrate,

wherein polydispersity defined by a ratio of a weight average molecular weight to a number average molecular weight of the organic binder resin is at least 4.0, and the weight average molecular weight is at least  $7.0 \times 10^4$  in a distribution of a polystyrene-converted molecular weight obtained by gel permeation chromatography,

wherein the charge generation material is selected from the group consisting of phthalocyanine compounds and bisazo compounds, and

~~The multi-layered organic electrophotographic photoconductor of claim 7, wherein the charge generation material is amorphous titanylphthalocyanine, and selected from the group consisting of phthalocyanine groups and bisazo compounds, or a ratio of amorphous titanylphthalocyanine to the organic binder resin in a coating liquid is adjusted so that a ratio of a weight of the charge generation material to the organic binder resin in the charge generation layer that is coated and dried is in a range from 7/3 to 5/5.~~

10. (original) The multi-layered organic electrophotographic photoconductor of claim 7, wherein a core of the phthalocyanine compounds is selected from the group consisting of a transition metal, a heavy metal, an oxide of a transition metal, an oxide of a heavy metal, a halide of a transition metal and a halide of a heavy metal.

11. (new) An electrophotographic photoconductor according to claim 3, wherein the undercoat layer has fine particles that perform functions of scattering exposure light and

transporting photo-generated charges to the substrate.

12. (new) The multi-layered organic electrophotographic photoconductor of claim 3, wherein the charge generation material is selected from the group consisting of phthalocyanine compounds and bisazo compounds.

13. (new) The multi-layered organic electrophotographic photoconductor of claim 12, wherein the phthalocyanine compounds comprise a benzene ring having a substituent that is selected from the group consisting of a halogen and an alkyl group.